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ALBANIA. 9 Nov.—Corfu Channel case (see *International Court of Justice*).

ARAB LEAGUE. 5 Nov.—*Palestine*. The League informed the U.N. Secretary-General that Zionist forces in a raid on Dawayma, in Upper Galilee, had 'ruthlessly massacred Arab women, children, and old people, thus perpetrating barbarities rivalling in horror those committed by the Nazis'. Urgent action by the Security Council was requested.

9 Nov.—*Palestine*. The Arab Office in London, in a statement, said that if the Zionists insisted on breaking the Palestine truce Britain would be morally bound, in fairness to the Arabs, to resume the supply of arms to the Arab States, which it withheld to enforce the truce, and would be internationally justified in doing so. The Zionists, it said, were seeking a loan of \$20 million from the U.S.A. The statement went on: Jewish arguments were an exact replica of Mussolini's and Hitler's attempts to prevent action by the League of Nations against their repeated aggressions. They, too, spoke of international action against their violations of the peace as being "unrealistic" in face of the *faits accomplis* with which time after time they confronted the world. They, too, thought to create an impression of the hopelessness of resistance on the part of their intended victims. They, too, were great believers in direct negotiation, meaning by it the exclusion of the League of Nations from the picture and the prevention of all international intervention against their designs. 'Far from sanctions being ineffectual against a *fait accompli*, it is precisely for such situations that sanctions were designed. The moment the United Nations admits that it is incapable or unwilling to apply sanctions to compel respect for its decisions where a clear defiance of those decisions has been perpetrated, that moment the United Nations will have committed suicide. The recent Zionist conquests in the Negeb and in Galilee were in direct defiance of clear decisions, resolutions, and orders issued by the Security Council.'

16 Nov.—The meeting in Cairo reached decisions that: (1) The Arabs would never agree to partition. They might have to bow to it if imposed, but could not be forced to recognize Israel or have any relations with it. (2) If Britain and the U.S.A. hoped to win Israeli gratitude by persuading the Arabs that their case was so hopeless that the League must recognize partition they were deceiving themselves, because Israel would continue to blackmail them with the threat of a swing to the Left and help from Russia. The Israelis were all anti-British, half pro-Russian, and not sure of U.S. support. (3) An all-Palestine Government should be the symbol of Palestinian Arab independence to be supported by other Arabs as the Israeli Government was by Russia and others.

AUSTRALIA. 5 Nov.—*Admiralty Islands*. It was announced in Canberra that a party of the R.A.A.F. had arrived at Manus, until recently occupied by U.S. forces, to prepare an Australian-manned base there for the use of the Naval and Air Force.

7 Nov.—*Commonwealth*. Mr Chifley, in a broadcast, said that

nobody should get 'worked up' about the Dominions pressing for changes in Imperial relations. 'The voluntary nature of this relationship is what matters. It is not a matter of forms but the reality of practical co-operation in the pursuit and defence of certain ideals of freedom, human decency, economic collaboration, and peace.'

15 Nov.—The Prime Minister, in a statement, said the Government whole-heartedly supported Dr Evatt's efforts to procure a settlement of the Berlin dispute, and people everywhere would welcome the initiative taken because the work of the U.N. Assembly had suffered serious checks and setbacks by the Powers' inability to settle it.

AUSTRIA. 9 Nov.—Dr Gruber in Rome (*see Italy*).

12 Nov.—The Soviet High Commissioner, Gen. Kurassov, informed the Allied Council that Dr Margaret Ottilingen, Under Secretary of State in the Ministry of Planning, had been arrested for espionage. The British High Commissioner asked that she be placed in the custody of the Austrian authorities, before whom the accusations could be laid. If the Austrians did not take suitable action the matter should be brought before the Allied Council.

BELGIUM. 12 Nov.—Field Marshal Lord Montgomery arrived in Brussels for talks with the Minister of Defence.

13 Nov.—*Trade Agreement*. An agreement was signed in Brussels between the Belgo-Luxembourg economic union and Poland, for trade to a value of £7 million.

18 Nov.—M. Paul Struye, Minister of Justice, resigned, owing to dissatisfaction at his action in commuting the death sentences passed on two Rexists, followers of Degrelle, for treason during the German occupation.

CANADA. 11 Nov.—*North Atlantic Defence*. In an Armistice Day broadcast, the acting Prime Minister, Mr St Laurent, said nations were compelled to combine their strength to meet the menace of Communism. Such nations had not lost hope in the United Nations, but they realized that security had to be achieved through regional pacts. Canada was ready to begin the actual negotiation of such a treaty. The British Commonwealth by itself did not constitute a system of collective security. Britain's adherence to the Brussels treaty showed how Commonwealth countries had to combine with neighbouring countries if security was to be real. In the American continent, the U.S.A. and Canada alone could not ensure the peace necessary to their security. Anything less than a North Atlantic pact would give no real hope of maintaining a preponderance of material strength on the side of peace, and that preponderance needed economic and moral as well as military support.

15 Nov.—Mr St Laurent succeeded Mr Mackenzie King as Prime Minister. He formed a new Government with the same Ministers as before except for two new ones: Mr Stuart Garson, Justice, and Mr Robert Henry Winters, Reconstruction.

CHILE. 7 Nov.—Further arrests were made and military precautions taken because of the alleged plot to overthrow the Government.

CHINA. 5 Nov.—British and U.S. nationals in Shanghai and Nanking were advised to leave, and some 900 dependents of U.S. Servicemen were ordered home.

Communist forces reached the outskirts of Chengteh, capital of Jehol.

President Chiang Kai-shek received an appeal from 120 Nanking professors to order a cease-fire and to set up a coalition Government with the Communists. A similar appeal was sent to Mao Tse Tung, the Communist Party president.

The Communist radio called on all Nationalist Army generals in North China to desert, 'unless you are willing to follow Chiang to a People's Court and finally to a tomb'.

6 Nov.—The Communists were reported to have broken through the defence system south of the Yellow River at two points and captured Nanyang, in south-west Honan, and Fengtai, in Anhwei.

7 Nov.—Shao Li-tze, former Ambassador to Russia, left Tientsin for Lanchow, in Kansu, to make contact with the Communists.

Large scale demonstrations took place in Shanghai against the high cost of living.

8 Nov.—President Chiang Kai-shek, in speeches in Nanking, said he expected to defeat the Communists, but called on the people to prepare for another eight years of civil war. The loss of Manchuria, though disheartening, 'relieved the Government of a tremendous burden of military expenditure'.

Communist forces were reported to be within 120 miles of Nanking.

Government troops in the 'corridor' claimed to have occupied Changli and cleared all the railway between Tientsin and the Great Wall.

In Shanghai food prices rose to three times those of the previous day, and rice was stated to be unobtainable, many shops having been looted.

9 Nov.—The Communists isolated Suchow, junction of the Pekin-Nanking and Lunghai railways, and in the north a Communist broadcast calmed the capture of Shanhaikwan, at the sea end of the Great Wall. They were also reported to be on the offensive round Taiyuan, capital of Shansi.

10 Nov.—The removal of 1,150 American dependents from Shanghai began. The U.S. Embassy in Nanking told their citizens there that river craft were coming from Shanghai to evacuate them.

In the Suchow area two divisions of Government troops were reported to have gone over to the Communists.

Strikes and food riots took place in Hankow, Nanking, Shanghai, and Hangchow, and in the first two cities the police had to fire on the crowd.

The Government announced that Marshal Wei Li-Luang, former Commander in Manchuria, was to be punished for 'hesitating in making decisions' during the campaign. (Twelve divisions were routed by the Communists west of Mukden and nationalist resistance collapsed.)

Government Changes. The Prime Minister, Mr Wong Wen-Lao, withdrew his resignation (*see p. 724*) and agreed to remain in office under a new policy to be administered by him, the Deputy Premier, and the Defence Minister. Martial law was proclaimed in Nanking and Shanghai, after food riots had led to clashes with the police.

11 Nov.—About a million men were reported to be engaged in the fighting north, east, and west of Nanking. The Communists claimed the capture of Tangshan, fifty miles west, and Tancheng, fifty-five miles north-east of Suchow, as well as of Haichow, the eastern terminus of the Lunghai railway.

Monetary Reform. The Central Political Council of the Kuomintang approved a reduction of the value of the gold yuan to twenty to the U.S. dollar, as against the previous rate of four to one.

12 Nov.—The Government announced the defeat of nine Communist columns attempting to cross the Grand Canal, thirty miles east of Suchow. The Communist radio said they were annihilating the 7th National Army Corps in the battle and had surrounded the 2nd Army Corps west of Suchow.

U.S. press reports stated that Taiyuan was running short of food and ammunition and was completely isolated by the Communists. U.S. Consular officers advised all women and children to leave Tsingtao.

Gen. Fu Tso-yi, C.-in-C. in North China, speaking in Peking, called on the people to close their ranks and support him, because they were fighting for liberty and democracy.

13 Nov.—The Government reported further successes on the Grand Canal, but admitted that Communists were shelling the airfield five miles east of Suchow. The main Government forces were reported to have withdrawn from the front into the city, where there were said to be some 250,000, including many troops who had been disarmed owing to doubts of their loyalty.

Communications with Nanking were broken by the tearing up of the railway at points north and south of Pengpu and by the blocking of the highways, isolating Pengpu itself.

The Communist radio stated that the 7th Army Group was being 'segmented and crushed' east of Suchow.

The U.S. Consul-General at Shanghai announced that U.S. armed forces were ready to divert ships to the port for Americans wishing for leave. Shanghai and Tientsin were reported to be seriously overcrowded with refugees.

16 Nov.—The Government stated that all the Communists round Suchow were moving northwards after suffering some 93,000 casualties and losing 8,000 men who had surrendered. Four Communist columns had also been encircled while attacking Suhsein, fifty miles south of Suchow, and their remnants were retreating eastwards along the Lunghai railway.

The Communists claimed the capture of Suhsein and the complete isolation of Suchow.

The British Consul-General in Shanghai, in a statement, said British residents might discount the many alarmist rumours current,

and assured them that if conditions became too difficult, transport to Hong Kong would be provided. The Australian Consul associated himself with the statement.

In the north, Gen. Fu Tso-yi admitted the evacuation of Paotingfu and Changteh, and said advance H.Q. had been established at Tangku, at the mouth of the Tientsin river. Of 280 British residents in Peking, 150 were stated to have left for Tientsin.

17 Nov.—The Communists claimed that they had virtually destroyed the 7th Army Group and surrounded the remains of it, and had also occupied its former H.Q. at Nienchuang, and the Lunghai Railway. They also claimed the capture of Suhsien, fifty miles south of Suchow, and of Sanpao, the recapture of which was announced by the Government forces.

The Government stated that four armies under Pai Chung-hsi had made a forced march of 180 miles from Hankow and were near the railway between Suchow and Pukow.

The U.S. Embassy announced that all China (except Sinkiang) had been put on an emergency evacuation basis for its nationals. It was learnt that 1,500 U.S. Marines were on their way to reinforce the garrison of Tsingtao and assist in the evacuation.

18 Nov.—Government spokesmen claimed a complete victory in the Suchow fighting, with 130,000 Communist casualties, against only 40,000 suffered by the Nationalists. They also reported a victory against forces trying to take Paoting, with 35,000 Communist casualties.

CYPRUS. 13 Nov.—Lord Winster's resignation (*see Great Britain*).

CZECHOSLOVAKIA. 5 Nov.—Figures given in the *Official Gazette* showed that between 17 June and 7 October there were 1,633 confiscations of foreign newspapers and periodicals.

6 Nov.—*Palestine*. Protest by U.S. Government (*see U.S.A.*).

11 Nov.—*Palestine*. Reports were current that, at the opening of the Czechoslovak-Israel Friendship Society, Father Plojhar, the Minister of Health, had stated that one of the ways in which the Government was showing its sympathy with Israel was through the supply of arms; but this statement did not appear in press reports of the meeting.

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE. 13 Nov.—The Commission announced at Geneva that six western European countries, including Britain, had agreed to send \$8 million worth of machinery and equipment to eastern Europe in return for increased supplies of timber. The International Bank would grant credits to Austria, Czechoslovakia, Finland, Poland, and Yugoslavia to enable them to deliver in two years \$120 million worth more than could otherwise be exported.

EGYPT. 9 Nov.—The leader of the Wafd Party, Nahas Pasha, was fired on as he was leaving Party headquarters, but was unhurt.

14 Nov.—*Palestine*. Mediator's instructions for withdrawal to truce lines (*see Palestine*). The Prime Minister announced that Egypt had

agreed to the establishment of a 'no-man's land' in the Negeb on the lines of the Mediator's plan.

16 Nov.—Arab League meeting in Cairo (*see Arab League*).

18 Nov.—*The Sudan*. The speech from the throne at the opening of Parliament affirmed that time and events had only strengthened the nation's resolve to see achieved the evacuation of all foreign troops and the unity of Egypt and the Sudan. Egypt was sparing no effort to secure the progress, prosperity, and rights of the Sudanese. She was also deeply interested in the fate of the ex-Italian colonies, especially Libya, which should be united and independent.

EIRE. 16 Nov.—Conversations on future states (*see France*).

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION. 12 Nov.—The Council of O.E.E.C. discussed the preparation of an interim progress report and decided that it should be submitted to the E.C.A. early in December.

EUROPEAN FEDERALISTS CONFERENCE. 9 Nov.—The conference, which had opened in Rome on 7 November, passed a resolution calling for the early convocation of a European Assembly, elected by the various Parliaments, the tasks of this body to include the drafting of a European statute and the recommendation to the various Governments of measures for the creation of a European federation.

10 Nov.—Count Carandini said Britain must dispel the suspicion that it wished to restrict itself to the formation of a belt of five States as advance guards, to the exclusion of Italy, and to strengthening the Atlantic alliance.

FRANCE. 7 Nov.—*Election*. The electoral college, made up of 100,000 delegates from the municipal councils, councils of the departments (conseils généraux), and the National Assembly voted for the Council of the Republic. Official figures for 262 seats out of the total of 269 to be filled were: Radicals (standing under various party labels), 64; R.P.F. (with no other political affiliation), 55; Socialists, 48; Radical and Republican Independents, 41; Communists, 16; M.R.P., 15; P.R.L. (right wing), 13; others, 10. According to unofficial figures for 261 seats, the R.P.F. secured 107 (including those elected on R.P.F. lists but having other political affiliations); Radicals 50, Socialists 47, Independents 20, Communists 16, M.R.P. 14, P.R.L. 3, and others 4.

Labour Unrest. It was officially stated that over half the miners had returned to work.

10 Nov.—*Ruhr*. Anglo-American announcement (*see Germany*).

The Government, in a statement on the announcement said that the declaration 'is contrary to the position repeatedly affirmed by France and recently reasserted by the National Assembly, which is that the decision concerning the ultimate ownership of the mines and steel works of the Ruhr should be taken by agreement between the interested Powers. Before its publication the document was communicated to

Gen. Koenig, and to the representatives of the Benelux countries. The French representatives pointed out that the provisions of the preamble could not be accepted by France. The French Government cannot consider itself bound by the decisions which have just been taken, or by any decisions taken later to put the declaration into effect'.

11 Nov.—The U.S. Defence Secretary, Mr Forrestal, arrived in Paris.

Ruhr. The President, M. Auriol, in an Armistice Day speech, said: 'While the enemy must contribute to European prosperity and pay its way in doing so, it would be unpardonable this time to let the arsenal of the Ruhr be restored to a German régime capable of using it against the peace of the world.' Only a system of international ownership and control would do. Six-Power Talks (*see Conference on the Ruhr*).

Labour Unrest. Communist ex-servicemen and supporters on their way to the Arc de Triomphe clashed with the police and many arrests were made, including two Communist Deputies. The Government confiscated the late editions of *Ce Soir*.

12 Nov.—The Government confiscated *L'Humanité*, after a few copies had been sold, owing to its attack on the Minister of the Interior, M. Moch. The Committee of the C.G.T. called for a twenty-four hour general strike next day as a protest against the behaviour of the police.

Ruhr Control. The delegation to the six-Power Conference in London argued that international control of distribution of coal, etc. could not realistically be discussed without reference to control of the management of the industries. M. Alphand proposed that the international authority's powers should include that of supervising in particular the planning and execution of production and equipment programmes by the future owners of Ruhr industry.

13 Nov.—In Puteaux (suburb of Paris) the police had to fire on the crowd during a clash in which seventeen policemen were injured. Three people were wounded. The crowd were marching to the local police station to demand the release of strike leaders who had just been arrested. The strike crippled Paris transport, but was only a partial success. Railways and postal services were not affected.

Mr Marshall told U.S. pressmen that the talk of a meeting between Mr Truman and Mr Stalin was merely a 'propaganda peace offensive', which was really intended to weaken the position of the U.S.A. Soviet propaganda had not been successful in the U.N. General Assembly and this, he thought, might be a reason for Mr Stalin's recent statement on 'western aggressors'. He also said that America still looked to the Security Council for a solution of the Berlin dispute.

15 Nov.—**Ruhr.** Mr McNeill's statement (*see Great Britain*).

16 Nov.—**Strikes.** The Minister of the Interior told the Chamber that he had good sources of information about the part played by the Communists in the strikes, and quoted from documents seized at the end of October. One gave instructions for the collection of weapons and food, another told party members to seize official rubber stamps so as to issue orders to dislocate transport and to forge them if they could not be secured. The Cominform had helped with funds. The Czech miners

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officially subscribed 250 million francs—a month's pay from each of 100,000 men, but the Soviet miners had given only 10 million francs. Since the 'defection' of Yugoslavia the management of this aid had been moved to Rumania.

The French Communist Party kept its accounts in the Commercial Bank for Northern Europe, owned by two Soviet banks. Big sums had been transferred to it from the Balkans, and large transfers of cash were made through Belgium. The police had recently arrested a Rumanian who had passed 1,000 million francs (say £80 million) from Switzerland into France.

Status of Eire. Conversations in Paris concluded between British and Dominion Ministers and members of the Government of Eire, and a statement was issued saying they were on 'matters arising out of the forthcoming repeal of the External Relations Act' (by Eire). The meeting discussed in a most friendly and constructive spirit practical means of continuing and if possible strengthening the relations between the Governments and the peoples of these countries.

17 Nov.—*Dock Strike.* The C.G.T. called a general strike of all dockers as from 22 November

Gen. de Gaulle, in a press conference, said of Anglo-American policy in Germany that it was no use denying that the aim was to restore the Reich, and the decision to summon one Constituent Assembly, and one only, meant that it was virtually reborn. It could not develop in the direction of stability; it would, as ever, develop the qualities of adventurer. The British and Americans perhaps cherished the notion that the Reich would be a bulwark against Russia, but it was risky to predict at this stage which way it would turn. Bismarck made an unbroken understanding with Russia the keystone of his policy, and when Hitler decided to crush France he had no difficulty in reaching agreement with the Kremlin.

His own solution was a federal Germany, within a federated Europe, and not a reformed Reich, which would try to become the nucleus of European unity. France had sureties in Germany on the right bank of the Rhine, so why accept that the French Zone be merged in the bizon? It was true that such a decision by France might jeopardize the Marshall plan, but she had lived for centuries without it, and while he would not contest its immense possibilities for good, it must not lead France to sacrifice the future for present gains. He saw little progress, so far, in the co-ordination of production, distribution, and currency problems, and it would be very difficult to reconcile interests and geographical circumstances as different as those of Britain and France.

On defence, he condemned a system based on Britain. Three theatres of operations should be arranged: Western Europe with North Africa, with France in charge; the Middle East with East Africa, under Britain; and the Far East, under the U.S.A. Over all this should be a committee of the heads of Governments.

M. Alphand's statement about the Ruhr (*see Six-Power Conference on the Ruhr*).

18 Nov. *Ruhr.* The foreign affairs committee of the Assembly passed

a resolution expressing dismay over the Anglo-American decision leaving the question of ownership to a new German Government, and calling on the French Government to press, in London, for 'the international control of the technical and commercial management of the mines and key industries'.

GERMANY. 5 Nov.—Berlin. A new airfield at Tegel, in the French Sector, was brought into use for the airlift. An application by the Spandau group of the federation of Free German Trade Unions (Communist) for permission for two of its members to enter Gatow airfield to carry on trade union activity among the workers there was rejected by the British authorities on the ground that this organization had shown that 'it is opposed to the extraordinary efforts which are being made to protect the population from the effects of the inhuman blockade of Berlin'.

6 Nov.—New Party. At a meeting in the Soviet Sector of Berlin a new party, the Independent Social Democratic Party was formed. It claimed to offer 'a new political home to the Socialists who have been excluded from the Social Democratic Party'.

8 Nov.—Bizone. A one-day strike was called throughout the Bizone for 12 November as a protest against high prices.

Berlin. The Soviet authorities announced further measures for 'the protection of the economy of the Soviet Sector and of the Soviet Zone'. Controls would be instituted at Sector boundary and permits would be required for the transport of all goods across the western Sectors.

10 Nov.—Ruhr. The British and U.S. authorities promulgated laws for the reorganization of the iron and steel and coal industries. German trustees were to take the place of former owners until a German Government was formed and the German people decided for themselves who were to own and manage these industries under allied supervision. Mines and foundries were to be detached from their parent enterprises, which formerly carried out many activities not exclusively concerned with mining coal and making steel, and what was then left of these complexes was to be liquidated without delay. French comment (*see France*).

Berlin. The Soviet Chief of Staff, in letters to the British and U.S. Chiefs of Staff, stated that British and U.S. aircraft without identification marks of nationality had flown in the air corridors, in the region of greater Berlin and over the Soviet Zone. In future unidentified aircraft would be forced down. They proposed the following measures: (1) All aircraft without identification marks of nationality flying over the territory of the Soviet Zone would be forced by Soviet air patrols to land on the nearest airfield in the Soviet Zone. (2) All foreign aircraft appearing over the Soviet Zone outside of the limits of the air corridors and the regions of greater Berlin would be likewise forced by Soviet air patrols to land on the nearest airfield of the Soviet Zone. These measures were stated to be necessary 'in order to prevent and preclude such types of illegal flights of foreign aircraft over the territory of the Soviet Zone and also in order to ensure the safety of flights of Soviet

aircraft.' The letter cited ten occasions between 4 and 25 October on which aircraft, without nationality markings, had flown either in the corridors in the Berlin area, or over the Soviet Zone.

The British Chief of Staff stated: 'Full and complete responsibility will rest on the shoulders of the Soviet authorities should any injury be sustained by any of our personnel or any damage occur to our planes as a result of Soviet action taken in this connection.'

11 Nov.—*Berlin*. The Prime Minister of New Zealand, Mr Fraser, arrived in the city.

Ruhr. Six-Power talks (*see Conference on the Ruhr*).

12 Nov.—*Bizone*. A one-day strike in protest at high prices and the economic policy of the German administration at Frankfurt caused a loss of some 200 million marks in wages, etc., and in the Ruhr a loss of 300,000 tons of coal and 25,000 tons of steel. There were no incidents, but nearly all the 4½ million members of the trade unions stayed away from work and many outside took a holiday.

Ruhr Control (*see France*).

War Guilt. Fifteen war criminals guilty of atrocities at Mauthausen concentration camp and of beating and shooting forty-seven captured British and U.S. parachutists were hanged at Landsberg.

Soviet Zone. Gen. Wardropp, replying to the Russian contention that the agreed rules governing flight over the Soviet zone 'lacked validity', said, 'it will be within your knowledge that the Soviet military administration has accepted these rules as binding on the four occupying Powers, and has itself from time to time drawn the attention of the other Powers to alleged infractions of these rules. In the circumstances I find it difficult to understand your contention that these rules are invalid and not binding on those who use the air corridors into Berlin'.

13 Nov.—*Ruhr*. One of the leading Ruhr industrial concerns posted up the slogan '100 per cent peace-time production for E.R.P.' and offered to reassemble its dismantled plant within six months.

American and British experts were understood to be touring western Germany to investigate which plants might be spared to assist the Marshall-aid countries which urgently needed its industrial products. Some 300 factories, etc. were being re-examined.

Berlin. Gen. Westropp, replying to Gen. Lukyanchenko's letter threatening interference with the air lift, said: 'My C.-in-C. will regard the forcing down of British aircraft bearing national identification markings and proceeding on their lawful occasions as a matter of the utmost gravity.' A similar reply was sent by the U.S. authorities.

14 Nov.—*French Zone*. Municipal and district elections resulted in the Christian Democrats polling about 45 per cent of the votes in Baden and the Rhine-Palatinate, with the Social Democrats next. The Communists lost ground in both and in Württemberg.

16 Nov.—*Berlin*. The Soviet deputy commandant, Col. Yelizarov, dismissed from office Prof. Reuter, of the public transport department of the *Magistrat*, and a Social Democrat, and Gustav Klingelhöfer, of the department of economic affairs, and replaced them by Heinz Schlicke and Emil Dufiska. The British and U.S. Military Governments

refused to recognize the dismissals as the orders were contrary to four-Power authority and violated the Berlin constitution.

F. M. Montgomery arrived in Frankfurt.

17 Nov.—*Air Lift*. A British Dakota crashed in the Soviet Zone of Berlin, killing the pilot and seriously injuring two others of the crew. Tegel airfield, in the French Zone, was opened to traffic.

Soviet Zone. Mr Mayhew's statement re armed police (see *Great Britain*).

Ruhr. The average production of coal rose to over 300,000 tons a day and a sharp decline in absenteeism was recorded.

GREAT BRITAIN. 5 Nov.—*Argentina*. Mr Bevin received the Foreign Minister, Dr Bramuglia.

7 Nov.—*British Honduras*. The Government replied to the Guatemalan Note of 29 October, repeating that a legal claim was involved, and the first step was to settle this through the International Court of Justice. Once the legal claim was settled, whatever the decision, they would do their best to dispose of any outstanding problems with Guatemala on a friendly basis. However, only if the Court judged that British Honduras was not legally British territory would Britain be prepared 'to consider surrendering any part of the territory of British Honduras which is inhabited by British subjects who have repeatedly demonstrated their wish to remain within the Commonwealth'. They could not see that mediation could succeed so long as the Guatemalan Government claimed that British Honduras was legally Guatemalan, while the British Government denied this and no legal adjudication had taken place.

8 Nov.—*Trade Agreement*. The United Kingdom and its colonies, except Hong Kong, with Australia, India, New Zealand, and South Africa concluded an agreement with S.C.A.P., acting for Japan, by which trade to the minimum value of £55 million would be done between these countries and Japan from 1 July 1948 to 30 June 1949, representing an increase of Japan's trade with the whole sterling area of over three and one half times. More than half Japan's exports under the arrangement would consist of cotton textiles, while it would import a wide range of essential raw materials.

9 Nov.—*Palestine*. The Government denied an Israeli statement that there were British troops in Palestine and Transjordan. There were none in either country except for the advisers to the Arab Legion in Transjordan, who were taking no part in operations.

Corfu Channel case (see *International Court of Justice*).

Arab Refugees. Gift (see *General Assembly*).

Commonwealth. Mr Attlee, speaking at the Lord Mayor's banquet at Guildhall, said the Commonwealth was no group of satellite Powers, bound together by a common fear, by a common subjugation to a tyrant's yoke, but an association of free and independent nations of many creeds and races united by a common sympathy and belief in democratic principles, and with a desire to adjust national policy to serve the needs of all.

10 Nov.—*Ruhr*. Anglo-U.S. announcement (see *Germany*).

11 Nov.—*Ruhr*. Six-Power Talks (see *Conference on the Ruhr*).

12 Nov.—The U.S. Secretary of Defence, Mr Forrestal, arrived in London and saw Mr Attlee and Mr Alexander.

13 Nov.—*Cyprus*. The Colonial Office announced that Lord Winster, who was in England on leave, would discuss with the Colonial Secretary matters related to the administration. There was no foundation for suggestions in press reports that Lord Winster had threatened to resign because proposals, including a request for additional powers in dealing with internal security problems which he had made, had been rejected.

Mr Forrestal left London for Germany.

14 Nov.—A son was born at Buckingham Palace to Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh.

Berlin. The Government received the text of the letter addressed to the four Powers by Dr Evatt, as President of the U.N. Assembly, and Mr Trygve Lie, urging on Mr Attlee, Mr Truman, M. Queuille, and Mr Stalin 'the desirability of immediate conversations, and of taking all other necessary steps towards the solution of the Berlin question, thus opening the way to a prompt resumption of negotiations for the conclusion of the remaining peace settlements for Germany, Austria, and Japan'.

15 Nov.—*European Unity*. It was learnt that Mr Attlee had refused Mr Churchill's request that the British members of the Committee on European Unity should be drawn from all parties.

Ruhr. Mr McNeill told the House of Commons that the French protest against the ordinance setting up trustee councils for the Ruhr industries related only to the statement in the preamble to the Trusteeship Law that 'the question of the eventual ownership of the coal, iron, and steel industries is one for determination by a freely elected German Government.' France did not object to the Law, and in fact, favoured the reorganization scheme in principle, as tending to increase production.

The question at issue was that of ownership, and France still wished for international ownership, while Britain remained convinced that public ownership was preferable. Britain and the U.S.A. were convinced that it was essential to set at rest certain uncertainties about eventual ownership which were impeding full production, and the statement that it would be left to a freely elected German Government seemed the solution most compatible with their conception of democracy, and so was included in the draft scheme submitted to the French some two months ago. After careful consideration of the French objections, Mr Bevin, after consulting the U.S. authorities, had notified Paris on 4 November that he was unable to instruct the British Military Governor to modify the proposal agreed with his U.S. colleague.

That a German Government reflecting the will of the people should make its own choice did not mean that they could choose to restore excessive concentrations of economic power or reinstate persons who had supported Nazi aggressive designs. These points were specifically covered in the Trusteeship Law; as the public statement accompanying its promulgation made clear, the German Government must exercise its

choice 'within the limits of Military Government policy, already expressed'.

16 Nov.—A Parliamentary mission from Argentina arrived in London and was entertained by Lord Stansgate.

Palestine. Mr Sylvester's appeal and release (*see Palestine*).

17 Nov.—*Germany.* Mr Mayhew, Foreign Under-Secretary, stated in Parliament that the Government had not made representations to Moscow about the armed police established in the Soviet zone but 'the Soviet Government are doubtless well aware that H.M. Government view with regret and disapproval the formation of a branch of the police in the Soviet zone trained and equipped along semi-military lines and including a number of high-ranking German officers. H.M. Government consider that such a development is contrary to the spirit and to the letter of the Potsdam Agreement and violates specifically Article 3 of the Political Principles which calls for the abolition of all military and quasi-military organizations and the prevention of all military activity'.

The Steel Nationalization Bill was given a second reading in the Commons after the Opposition motion for its rejection had been lost by 373 votes to 211.

Berlin. British reply to the personal appeal to the heads of State for a settlement (*see United Nations*).

GOLD COAST. 13 Nov.—The Secretary of State for the Colonies arrived at Accra to preside over the meeting of the West African Council.

GREECE. 5 Nov.—Treaties of friendship and trade (*see Italy*).

6 Nov.—Debate on Greece (*see U.N. General Assembly*).

7 Nov.—The King and the Prime Minister received telegrams from Dr Evatt, President of the U.N. Assembly, asking them to suspend the execution of the ten trade union leaders (*see p. 733*), on the ground that it would seriously interfere with attempts already on foot at conciliation which might result in lasting benefits to Greece.

Mr Sophoulis replied to Dr Evatt that the Government had issued orders for the postponement of all the death sentences before receiving his message.

11 Nov.—Mr Venizelos, Mr Papandreou, Mr Canellopoulos, and Mr Economides formally withdrew the confidence of their followers from the Government.

12 Nov.—*Government Changes.* The Government resigned on the ground that it lacked popular support because of its inability to lead the nation to victory against Communism.

13 Nov.—Mr Tsaldaris was asked to form a Government.

14 Nov.—Nine leading Socialist politicians who sent a cable to Dr Evatt supporting a policy of conciliation on the Communist problem, were dismissed from the organizations and clubs to which they belonged.

18 Nov.—*Government Change.* Mr Tsaldaris having failed to form a Cabinet, a new coalition Government of the Liberal and People's Party

was sworn in under Mr Sophoulis. Mr Tsaldaris remained Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister.

GUATEMALA. 15 Nov.—*British Honduras.* The Foreign Minister discussed with the press the grievances with the British Government which, he said, had given 'absolute proof' of its refusal to co-operate by rejecting a proposal that the U.S.A. should act as mediator. For a second time, British warships had arrived off their country and landed troops and supplies, and this was a new threat against the sovereignty of Guatemala, giving proof of the weakness of Britain's juridical position. As to reference to the International Court, he was not satisfied with the conditions on which the case should be judged.

HUNGARY. 5 Nov.—*Cominform Dispute.* The Government, in a Note to Yugoslavia, said that country was trying to poison Hungarian-Yugoslav relations through 'transparent political manoeuvres'. They described as a 'falsehood and ridiculous vilification' the Yugoslav charges of embezzlement and theft against pro-Cominform Yugoslav officials in Hungary. They said that in two recent Notes they had asked the Yugoslav Government to recall immediately from Budapest several Yugoslav officials who had attempted 'to interfere in Hungarian internal affairs and engage in espionage against Hungary'. Yugoslavia had answered this demand with a 'campaign of libel and falsehood against the Cominform, the U.S.S.R., Hungary, and these pro-Cominform Yugoslav officials'.

8 Nov.—The bench of bishops, in a statement, identified themselves with the work of Cardinal Mindszenty and expressed their 'trust and sympathy'.

15 Nov.—Victor Csornoky, former Minister in Cairo and a son-in-law of ex-President Tildy, was sentenced to death for high treason, espionage, smuggling, and felony. He was convicted of plotting to abduct his father-in-law and take him out of Hungary.

INDIA. 8 Nov.—*Commonwealth and the Constitution.* Mr Nehru told the Constituent Assembly that in discussions in London on India's relationship with the Commonwealth he had said that he could not commit his country or the Government of India on a matter that was essentially for the Assembly alone to decide. He said: 'We pass the constitution for an independent, sovereign, democratic India, for a republic as we choose. The second question (India's relationship with the Commonwealth) has to be considered separately at whatever time it suits the House. It does not in any sense affect our constitution or limit it, because this constitution, coming from the people of India, represents their will regarding the future governance of this country.' The question of India being a republic had little to do with what relations it should have with other countries, notably the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth.

12 Nov.—Pandit Nehru, describing the London Prime Ministers' Conference to the press, said that while he felt that by virtue of his-

torical processes India had to be completely independent, with world conditions as they were, it was not desirable for any country to seek to break existing links or to isolate itself. It would be for the Constituent Assembly to take a final decision on India's relation with the Commonwealth, and meanwhile the Government would continue to confer with the U.K. and other Dominions on how far neutral relationships could be developed.

He said that India felt sure that the future of the French and Dutch possessions in India could only be in union with India.

INDONESIA. 11 Nov.—Dr Stikker left for Holland.

ITALY. 5 Nov.—*Treaty with Greece*. The Foreign Minister, Count Sforza, and the Greek Foreign Minister, Mr Tsaldaris, signed at San Remo treaties of friendship, trade, and navigation. With regard to the cession of Italian warships to Greece under the peace treaty it was agreed that only one cruiser be delivered.

9 Nov.—*Austria*. Count Sforza received the Foreign Minister, Dr Gruber, and two conventions regulating traffic between north and east Tyrol and reducing Customs and other formalities were signed.

13 Nov.—Dr Gruber left Rome.

The Foreign Office issued a statement on 'alleged rumours that other nations may be asked to join the Atlantic Pact, including Italy'. It said the Government viewed in a friendly light all agreements on a larger scale which would lead to greater co-operation among the nations without losing sight of close co-operation between the Marshall countries.

JAPAN. 8 Nov.—Trade Agreement (*see Great Britain*).

12 Nov.—The International Military Tribunal for the Far East sentenced to death Koki Hirota (ex-Foreign Minister) and Generals Tojo, Doihara, Itagaki, Kimura Matsui, and Muto; and to life sentences Marquess Kido, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal, and fifteen others. Ex-Foreign Minister Togo was sentenced to twenty years imprisonment, and Shigemitsu, Foreign Minister for 1943-45, to seven years. The fifteen others included six Generals, one Admiral, Baron Hiranuma, Premier in 1931, an ex-Finance Minister, and the Ambassadors to Berlin and Rome.

All except Matsui and Shigemitsu are convicted of conspiracy to wage aggressive war for the domination of East Asia, and the Pacific and Indian Oceans. All the seven condemned to death were convicted of breaches of the laws and customs of war.

The Indian judge, Mr Justice Pal, dissented and recommended that 'each and every one of the accused be found not guilty of each and every one of the charges of the indictment', and the members for France and the Netherlands also entered a dissenting judgment. The President, Sir William Webb, said their crimes were far less heinous than those of the Nazis and also considered it might prove revolting to hang or shoot such old men as some of the accused. He also pointed out that the authority of the Emperor was proved beyond doubt when he

ended the war, and he himself considered him fully responsible for the war. If he had not wanted war he should have withheld his authority. It was no defence to say that he might have been assassinated, and the suggestion that the Emperor was bound to act on the advice given him was contrary to the evidence. If he acted on advice it was because he saw fit to do so.

MALAYA. 5 Nov.—In the Kajang area of Selangor troops killed two terrorists and captured one who was on the wanted list and two known murderers. Terrorists attacked police stations at Kulim, in Kedah, and at Kuala Kangsar, in Perak, but were driven off.

8 Nov.—A British estate manager was murdered north of Kuala Lumpur. Troops discovered a rebel training camp north-west of Ipoh.

9 Nov.—Terrorists ambushed and murdered a British manager in the Mentakab area of Pahang.

In the Tanjong Malim district of Selangor terrorists ambushed a police lorry, killing two constables and injuring ten.

15 Nov.—Terrorists ambushed and killed a Scots miner, an Australian, and three Asians near Baru Gajah, Perak.

16 Nov.—Official figures of the terrorists killed since the campaign began in June, were issued, showing 295 killed and 217 captured.

17 Nov.—A month's drive against terrorists in Johore ended, after covering 600 square miles and killing twenty-seven men and destroying twelve camps. Arrests numbered 152.

A British officer was killed and another wounded by terrorists in the Muar district of Johore.

18 Nov.—A conference of British diplomatic and administrative representatives in South-East Asia opened at Bukit Serene, Johore.

NETHERLANDS. 12 Nov.—Field-Marshal Lord Montgomery had talks with the military authorities, in which special attention was given to the contribution the Netherlands should and could provide to the military preparedness of the Western Union Powers. It was understood that he urged the authorities to form a well-equipped military force in the very near future.

PAKISTAN. 8 Nov.—*Commonwealth.* Mr Liaquat Ali Khan said in a broadcast that two things should be clearly understood about the Commonwealth. First, that 'in this brotherhood every country is completely free and can leave the Commonwealth whenever it likes. Secondly, that the Commonwealth as a whole is not hostile to any other country or countries. The countries of the Commonwealth have not grouped themselves to transgress on the rights of others or to attack any one. They have joined together to help one another'.

PALESTINE. 5 Nov.—Egyptian forces evacuated Majdal, which was immediately occupied by Israeli troops.

Statement on Jewish atrocities (*see Arab League*).

9 Nov.—*Israel.* The Government, in letters to the acting Mediator,

asked him to investigate reports that 'not inconsiderable contingents of British troops' had recently arrived in Transjordan, that some of them had reached parts of Palestine, and that considerable shipments of arms, supplied from British sources, had been landed at Basra.

British denial (*see Great Britain*).

Israeli troops occupied the post of Iraq Suweidan.

10 Nov.—The U.N. truce supervisory board protested in Tel Aviv against the arrest by Israeli military police of two U.N. observers near Iraq Suweidan the previous day while they were observing the fighting. A U.N. official stated that heavy fighting had been reported during the past two days in the Jordan valley, near Geshar and El Adasya.

11 Nov.—Mr Ben-Gurion told the press that a provisional State Council, 'a new reality' had been created in Palestine, and that the Government no longer considered itself bound by the U.N. resolution of 29 November 1947.

It was learnt that 20,000 immigrants had arrived in October.

Negeb Committee discussion (*see Security Council*).

Czechoslovakia. Reports of sending of arms to Israel (*see Czechoslovakia*).

12 Nov.—Mr Ben-Gurion announced that negotiations were proceeding with representatives of two Arab States but they were not peace talks.

13 Nov.—Dr Bunche notified the Israeli and Egyptian Governments of the 'provisional demarcation lines' to which the two sides should withdraw by 19 November, and added that these lines would last until the permanent truce lines were established.

14 Nov.—An Israeli spokesman described the Mediator's communication as 'a shameful document', lacking the basic elements of reality, reason, and justice. (The Israelis were to withdraw to south of a line running east from Isdud to the area of Beit Jibrin, where it joined the truce line in existence before 14 October. Israel would have to evacuate Beersheba, which would be demilitarized and then administered by the Egyptians.)

15 Nov.—Mr Shertok's statement to the Political Committee (*see United Nations Assembly*).

18 Nov.—Israel. Reply to Security Council request for armistice (*see United Nations*).

PERSIA. 6 Nov.—*Government Changes*. The Government resigned (the Majlis had passed none of its Bills, and had refused to adopt the Budget).

8 Nov.—The Majlis elected Mohammed Saed as Prime Minister.

POLAND. 13 Nov.—Trade Agreement signed (*see Belgium*).

RUMANIA. 14 Nov.—*Oil Companies*. The Astra-Romana Oil Company (a Royal Dutch-Shell subsidiary) was fined 4000 million lei (over £7 million) 'for having robbed oil from the State-owned sub-soil'.

SIX-POWER CONFERENCE ON THE RUHR. 11 Nov.—Representatives of Britain, the U.S.A., France, and the Benelux countries met in London to discuss the establishment of an international authority charged with exercising control over the distribution of Ruhr products. M. Alphand (France) protested against the Anglo-American decision of the previous day that the question of the ownership of the mines and steel works should be settled by a future German Government (*see Germany*). He proposed that the international authority be given a measure of control over the management of the industries.

17 Nov.—M. Alphand (France) handed the Conference in London a statement of the French proposals for international control of the management of Ruhr industry such as would provide a safeguard against German re-armament.

SOUTH AFRICA. 17 Nov.—*National Registration.* The Cabinet approved a scheme of registration to apply to every one. Identity cards would show the race to which the holder belonged, and the system would assist in matters of residential domicile and in preventing mixed marriages. Dr Malan told the press that a person would be classed as non-European if he had one-sixth black blood.

He also said that South Africa would rather leave the United Nations than submit South-West Africa to trusteeship. He had reached agreement with South-West Africa on the merits of the case. For the people the choice lay between rule by the Union or by the United Nations with its Communist influence.

SPAIN. 8 Nov.—Gen. Franco appointed the Minister of Justice, Don Raimundo Cuesta, secretary-general of the Falange.

9 Nov.—The Infante Juan Carlos, son of the Pretender, arrived in Madrid to continue his education (*see p. 587*).

SUDAN 13 Nov.—During the campaign for the first General Election sixty-five demonstrators were arrested during protests against the elections. They included Daderi Ahmed Ismail, leader of the Unity of the Nile Valley Party, and Hamed Tewfik, leader of the Unionist Party. The demonstrations were organized by the pro-Egyptian Sudanese National Front.

15 Nov.—Polling took place for the Legislative Assembly.

17 Nov.—*Elections.* The Independence Front secured a majority in the Legislative Assembly.

UNITED NATIONS

EDUCATION, SCIENTIFIC, AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

17 Nov.—The Unesco Conference opened at Beirut, with delegates from forty-four nations present.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION

17 Nov.—The British Minister of Agriculture told the Conference of

the F.A.O. in Washington that the world must learn to produce more food per acre or ultimately face mass hunger.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

13 Nov.—*Berlin*. Dr Evatt and Mr Trygve Lie signed a letter addressed to the heads of the four States parties to the dispute recalling that on 3 November the General Assembly unanimously adopted an appeal to the great Powers to renew their efforts to compose their differences and establish a lasting peace, and recommending them to redouble their efforts to secure the final settlement of the war, and going on to say that the Berlin question was still pending before the Security Council, where the deadlock over it was endangering peace. It was within the power of the leaders of the great nations, to which the letter was sent, to end this danger to the peace, and 'we therefore respectfully urge on the four Governments', it went on, 'the desirability of immediate conversations and of taking all other necessary steps towards the solution of the Berlin question, thus opening the way to a prompt resumption of negotiations for the conclusion of the remaining peace settlements for Germany, Austria, and Japan. We also believe the Great Powers should lend their full and active support to the efforts at mediation of the dispute by the President of the Security Council. For ourselves, we stand ready to lend all further assistance, such as the currency study now being made by the Secretary-General, as may seem most helpful to the great Powers in the solution of the problem . . .'

15 Nov.—The Assembly adopted its Steering Committee's recommendation to set up an *ad hoc* political committee to take over some of the items on the agenda of the Political Committee, which was behind time in its programme.

16 Nov.—*Berlin*. The Soviet reply to the appeal issued by Dr Evatt regarding Berlin was issued, stating that the Government had already on 3 October sent a Note to the other three Powers proposing the recognition of the directive agreed on by the Supreme Commanders in Berlin on 30 August as agreement between the four Powers for the settlement of the question. At the same time it proposed a meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers to discuss the position in Berlin and the question of Germany as a whole in accordance with the Potsdam decisions. The Soviet Government still remained of the same mind.

The Quai d'Orsay announced that the Foreign Ministers of Britain, France, and the U.S.A. had reached complete agreement on the western attitude to the appeal.

Political Committee

5 Nov.—*Greece*. Col Hodgson (Australia) tabled a resolution calling on the president of the Assembly to convene an immediate meeting in Paris at which the envoys of Greece, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, and Albania should themselves seek a settlement of their differences.

8 Nov.—*Greece*. Despite what M. Spaak called 'systematic sabotage' on the part of the Yugoslav, Polish, and Soviet delegates to hold up voting on the clauses of the resolution, the Committee passed clauses

declaring that the continued aid given by Albania, Bulgaria, and Yugoslavia endangered peace in the Balkans and should cease.

9 Nov.—*Greece*. Four more clauses of the resolution were passed, calling upon Albania, Bulgaria, and Yugoslavia to co-operate with Greece in the settlement of their dispute; calling upon all the four countries to co-operate with the Balkans Commission; and advising all member States and others to refrain from aiding any armed group fighting against the Greek Government; approving the activities of the Balkans special committee, which was maintained in its functions.

10 Nov.—*Greece*. A Soviet resolution was carried, recommending the establishment of diplomatic relations between Greece and Albania and Bulgaria and calling on those Governments with Yugoslavia to renew frontier conventions for the settlement of disputes and to settle the refugee question. The four-Power proposal was adopted as a whole by 48 votes to 6.

11 Nov.—*Soviet Disarmament Proposal*. Dr Tsiang (China) opposing the proposal, repeated an estimate of the Japanese Foreign Office that 50,000 Japanese prisoners of war were being used by the Chinese Communists as air-gunners and tank crews. This estimate was based on reports by men repatriated from Soviet captivity; and a further 13,000 Japanese were stated to be doing technical work in Manchuria. Soviet policy was not only the greatest factor of uncertainty in Europe; it was also the factor of greatest worry in Asia, and without further light on the future of this policy no move could be made towards a reduction of armaments. China was facing an armed Communist rebellion and, he said the Soviet resolution was a hostile intervention in Chinese domestic affairs. Mr Vyshinsky said China opposed the Soviet resolution because it might have an unfavourable effect on the civil war. But, whether armies were reduced or not, it would make no difference to the outcome of the tremendous battle of the Chinese people against the Government.

Greece. The Australian proposal calling on the four countries to consult together and resolve their differences was passed. Dr Evatt, M. Spaak, Mr Sarper (Turkey), and Mr Trygve Lie were to act as conciliators between the four countries.

12 Nov.—Mr McNeil told Mr Vyshinsky that the western Powers were not blindly prepared to fall in line with 'sham' resolutions such as the Russian disarmament proposal. Britain sought peace, but would not accept an uneasy lull as a prelude to domination by any one. Western Europe had disarmed, and was ready to enter into any effective agreement for the regulation of armaments; but they were not ready to destroy their defences until they were satisfied that those of whom the whole world stood in fear were also prepared to curtail their present tremendous capacity to attack. Since the war Britain had reduced her forces to 787,000 (September 1948) and military expenditure had fallen from 62 to 10 per cent of national income. The U.S.S.R. was estimated to have four million men under arms and no amount of verbal dexterity would lure the Committee from its legitimate curiosity about these

figures, which did not include vast reserves and the forces of satellite countries.

13 Nov.—The Committee rejected the Soviet disarmament (reduction by one-third) proposal and adopted, by forty votes to six, the majority resolution of its sub-committee recommending the Security Council to pursue its studies through the commission for conventional armaments, which should concentrate on the question of creating an international control body.

15 Nov.—Mr Shertok, in a statement, said the Negeb was 'Israel's future' and no part of it could be given [up or bartered away. The Mediator's proposal that Jerusalem should be a separate entity, under U.N. control, was illusory and untenable. The Jews there insisted on entrusting their defence to none other than their own people. Haifa was an integral part of Israel but the Government would grant rights of a free zone in the port to any neighbouring States ready to conclude an agreement safeguarding Israel's legitimate interests. The same applied to Lydda airport.

He rejected the proposal that the Arab part of Palestine should come under the rule of Transjordan and suggested the creation of an independent State. In that case Israel would be ready to negotiate with it on mutual adjustments of boundaries, provided the new State would enter into close alliance with Israel. It was unthinkable for Israel to re-admit the Arab refugees to their homes while the war lasted, but Israel was prepared to negotiate.

The United Nations should, he said, call on the aggressor to end the war, and the conciliation commission proposed by the Mediator should be a 'good offices commission' entrusted with the task of setting the parties to meet.

Mr Shertok told the Committee that Israel could not consider the Bernadotte Report even as a basis of discussion, and the resolution of 29 November 1947 was the only valid basis for a settlement. In 1917 the Jews had been offered a national home of 44,740 square miles; in 1922 it was reduced to 10,000 square miles (when Transjordan was taken away), in 1947 to 6,370 square miles, and later to 5,579; and now the Mediator wanted to make it only 2,124 square miles. The Negeb was the only area in Palestine with large-scale colonization, and its development was 'decisive for the future of Jewish immigration into Israel'. Israel was entitled to access to the chemical wealth of the Dead Sea, which the Jews had made productive. Arab control of it would be deadly to Jewish initiative and the whole enterprise would collapse under Arab rule. The Negeb was also vital to Israel because of the outlet for Dead Sea produce through the Gulf of Aqaba, and Israel was 'uncompromisingly opposed' to being debarred from there. 'The Negeb is Israel's future; no part of it can be given up or bartered away.' Any Arab State which was awarded it would have to overcome, 'in bloody battles, the fiercest resistance that the Jews have yet offered anywhere to Arab invaders'.

As to Jerusalem, Israel would observe the principles of international custody for the holy places, but claimed the permanent inclusion in

Israel of modern Jewish Jerusalem, the extra-mural city, together with a strip connecting it with the Jewish State.

The Arab refugees had not, he said, been driven out by the Jews. Not only did the Arabs begin the fighting, but they arranged for evacuation. They had brought about the present calamity by their folly and short-sightedness. He ended by asking that Israel be admitted to the United Nations.

Canada proposed a resolution, supported by France and Belgium, calling for an armistice on all sectors as a first move towards peace.

16 Nov.—*Palestine*. Ahmad Shukairy, of the Arab Higher Committee, agreed that the Mediator's plan provided no basis for peace. It was the partition plan that first brought fire to the Holy Land. The Egyptian Foreign Minister feared that the Jews were trying to establish a base for later penetration into the whole Arab world. From early assertions of moderation Zionism was moving towards claims for *Lebensraum*. A hybrid and dangerous crowd was being assembled by the Jews as a military nucleus for future aggression.

17 Nov.—*Palestine*. The Egyptian Foreign Minister declared that the only guarantee in which the Arab States could believe was military preparedness against aggression. Faris Bey (Syria) complained that Britain had not been impartial, and during the Mandate the Jews had been able to mass arms which citizens in no other country would be allowed to possess. The Arabs in Palestine were not even allowed a knife. In justice the Jews had no right in Palestine; they came as they did twenty-five centuries ago, with weapons to kill the inhabitants.

The resolution approved the Mediator's conclusion on Arab refugees, who should be allowed to return to their homes.

Mr McNeill stated that, by the Mediator's plan, Jews would be getting a very high percentage of good land and the Arabs would get nearly all the poor and useless land. Therefore, in the British view, the Negeb could not be considered an unjustly high price for the Jews to pay for western and central Galilee.

The Syrian delegate accused Britain of supporting a plan which was contrary to her previous undertaking that any plan must be acceptable to both sides. The Emil Feisal declared that the Arabs would never accept the loss of a single foot of their country, and that their opposition to partition remained complete and eternal.

18 Nov.—Mr McNeill (Britain) introduced a resolution calling on the Assembly to accept and apply the Bernardotte proposals. It recommended the creation of a conciliation commission of say three States which should: 1. undertake for the Security Council any of the functions performed by the Mediator or truce commission; 2. appoint a technical boundaries commission to assist in drawing in frontiers according to the mediator's recommendations; 3. assist the Arab Government in consultation with the Palestine Arabs, to dispose of Palestinian territory not in the Jewish State; 4. present to the next General Assembly detailed proposals for an international régime for Jerusalem, including the protection of the holy places; 5. take steps to facilitate the administration of the Jerusalem area, which should be placed under

United Nations control, and appoint a U.N. commissioner for the area; 6. report at once to the Security Council any attempt by any party to prevent access to Jerusalem.

Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee.

3 Nov.—*Arab Refugees.* The Assembly's financial committee informed the committee that the United Nations would make available for relief \$5 million from its working capital.

9 Nov.—*Arab Refugees.* Britain announced a gift of £1 million for relief in non-convertible sterling on condition that other countries subscribed proportionately.

Trusteeship Committee

8 Nov.—*South-West Africa.* Mr Louw said that the Union Government could not agree to place South-West Africa under the Trusteeship Council. It did not admit any moral obligation to recognize the authority of the United Nations over South-West Africa. The League of Nations had not made the United Nations its legatee for mandated territories. The time had arrived for a closer form of political and economic association between the two territories, and agreement on the main issues had been reached (see p. 708). The new arrangement was not incorporation. On the contrary, South-West Africa would acquire self-government in a measure not permitted to the legislative bodies of the provinces.

10 Nov.—*South-West Africa.* Mrs Pandit (India) asked that a U.N. commission be sent to the territory to ascertain whether its people were in favour of incorporation into the Union. She said that in view of South Africa's 'defiance' of the Assembly's directive against incorporation the committee had to declare that the United Nations could not acquiesce in the position taken by the Union Government, which must be requested to place South-West Africa under trusteeship without delay and in the meantime should abandon all proposals for incorporation. She contested Mr Louw's claim that with the end of the League of Nations the Union acquired full authority over South-West Africa. The mandate system was not designed to confer sovereignty on the mandatory Powers. Mr Gordon Walker (Britain), commenting on the legal aspects of the question, said nothing in the Charter obliged South Africa to enter into a trusteeship agreement, and he warned the committee against too liberal an interpretation of Articles 77 and 80.

16 Nov.—Mr Louw, South Africa, told the Committee that his Government could not accept the Assembly's recommendation to place South West Africa under trusteeship. Its racial problems could best be solved by a system of parallel development along separate lines, each race according to its traditions and ways of life.

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

9 Nov.—*Corfu Channel.* The Court began hearings of the case (see Vol. II, p. 657). Sir Hartley Shawcross (Britain) pointed out that the Corfu Channel was an international highway, that the waterway in

which the incident occurred had many times been swept clear of mines, and that the damage was caused in a minefield recently laid, in waters over which the Albanian Government then had control. The Court had to decide on three issues: (1) the mining of the two ships; (2) the question of an alleged trespass by the British ships; and (3) a similar question in relation to incidents on 13 November 1946, when British ships swept and removed the minefield that had been laid a fortnight before. He said the ships proceeded up channel well inside the 'Mediroute' (the route laid down by international authority).

10 Nov.—*Corfu Channel*. Sir Hartley Shawcross said that after the incident Albania had vetoed minesweeping and when minesweeping was resumed three weeks later in the same area a new minefield was discovered. Evidence from a Yugoslav naval officer pointed to this having been laid by Yugoslav ships. At the time of the incident, although the British ships were alleged to be committing a provocative incursion into Albanian imperial waters, no warning signal had been given to them while for two hours they steamed up the channel in full view of the Albanians.

11 Nov.—*Corfu Channel*. Sir Eric Beckett, dealing with the Albanian counter-claim that Britain had violated Albanian sovereignty by reason of the acts of the British Navy in Albanian waters, said that in view of the fact that the Corfu Channel was in the sub-area allocated to Greece for minesweeping purposes, Greece had the right to sweep the channel itself or to authorize Britain to do so, and Greece did consent to the sweeping. Also, as on 22 October H.M. ships had been struck by mines in the channel in circumstances which created justifiable suspicion that these mines had been deliberately placed there and, as H.M. ships had been deliberately allowed by the Albanian authorities to run into them, Britain was entitled to sweep the channel, both to remove an immediate source of danger to shipping and to investigate whether there was any foundation for these suspicions, and to do so without delay to prevent the removal of the evidence, if there was any, justifying these suspicions. Britain submitted that, apart altogether from any right it had under international law to safeguard and assert its rights, Albania, having twice violently attacked the United Kingdom, was in no position before the Court to invoke British obligations under the Charter to refrain from threatening or using force.

12 Nov.—*Corfu Channel*. The British counsel said that as the channel was in the sub-area allocated to Greece for mine-sweeping, it has the right to sweep the channel or authorize Britain to do so. Further, Britain had the right to do so on 12–13 November 1946, because British ships had been struck in circumstances which had created justifiable suspicion that the mines had been placed there deliberately.

17 Nov.—*Corfu Channel*. Counsel for Albania complained that Britain had upheld Greek territorial claims affecting Albania, had not established diplomatic relations with her, and had vetoed her membership of the U.N. and the Mediterranean mine-sweeping organization. He also said that if Albania had been guilty of laying the mines she would have had ample time to remove traces of her crime.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION

15 Nov.—The I.L.O. Conference opened at Kandy, Ceylon, twenty countries being represented. The Prime Minister of Ceylon said it was a matter of immediate necessity to raise the economic conditions of the masses of Asia if they were not to retard the progress of the more prosperous Western countries.

SECURITY COUNCIL

7 Nov.—*Palestine*. According to statements by U. N. officials, Gen. Riley, U.N. Chief of Staff in Haifa, who was in Paris, was understood to have informed Dr Bunche that in his opinion the truce had outlived its usefulness, and that the recent resolution of the Council (see p. 745) would be extremely difficult to enforce since it sought to extend the truce requirements. The military situation was now completely dominated by Israeli forces, who could take all of Palestine if they chose. He favoured reducing the corps of U.N. observers to a handful in readiness for a more permanent state of affairs, which in his opinion must soon succeed the truce. He repeated his appreciation of the military situation to the delegates of four of the Arab States, emphasizing the hopelessness of attempting to restore the positions of 14 October. Direct negotiations between the contending parties were now the only way of achieving peace.

Dr Bunche issued additional information on recent events in Galilee, reporting that Israeli forces had occupied the area in Galilee formerly controlled by Fawzi Kaukji's troops and had crossed the Lebanon frontier to occupy some fifteen Lebanese villages from two to six miles over the border. The last cease-fire was generally effective, Kaukji's forces having withdrawn from Galilee during the last two nights of October. Observers found Arab villages in the Galilee 'pocket' deserted and showing signs of systematic looting. A new flight of refugees into the Lebanon was in progress.

8 Nov.—*Palestine*. Dr Bunche issued an official retraction of statements attributed to Gen. Riley. He confirmed that he and Gen. Riley had met delegations concerned in the Palestine conflict and with the help of 'truce maps' outlined the general military position and further discussed recent outbursts of fighting and the problems of truce supervision. No conclusions, however, were mentioned and neither he nor Gen. Riley had made any statement with regard to the carrying out of the Negeb resolution. They would do their best to carry out the instructions of the Council.

9 Nov.—*Palestine*. Dr Bunche submitted to a private meeting of the Council proposals in the form of a resolution which recommended the parties 'to undertake immediately, through the good offices of the acting United Nations mediator: (1) The settlement of all outstanding problems of the truce in all sectors of Palestine; (2) Establishment of an armistice involving: (a) the separation of their armed forces engaged in the conflict in Palestine by the creation of broad demilitarized zones under United Nations' observance; (b) such ultimate withdrawal and

reduction of these forces as will ensure the restoration of Palestine to peace-time conditions'.

Dr Bunche and Gen. Riley later pointed out to the press the unsatisfactory nature of a truce which, although indefinite, could not be indefinitely maintained. It held out no 'promise of peace' and 'in the nature of the case, is regarded as an interruption to hostilities.' An armistice would be the next logical step, and one which must not be long delayed. In the course of questions on the illegal entry of arms, he said that there were airfields in both Israeli and Arab territories which U.N. observers were not allowed to inspect.

13 Nov.—The 'Negeb' sub-committee on Palestine set up by the Council, approved the provisional demarcation lines to which the Israeli and Egyptian forces should withdraw by 19 November, in pursuance of the Council's resolution of 4 November.

16 Nov.—*Palestine*. The Council adopted the Canadian resolution by 8 votes to 1, the U.S.S.R. and the Ukraine abstaining.

17 Nov.—*Berlin*. The three western Governments delivered their replies to the appeal of Dr Evatt and Mr Trygve Lie. The texts differed, but all agreed that negotiations could not be resumed until the Berlin blockade was lifted. The British reply stated that the Government had studied the letter carefully and assured the signatories that it was 'fully determined to aid the President and the other members of the Security Council in the steps taken by them to find a solution of the Berlin question'. It recalled the efforts made to resolve the question by means of direct negotiation with the Soviet Government and their frustration by the failure of the latter to send instructions to their Military Governors in Berlin in conformity with the understanding which had been reached between the representatives of the western Powers and Premier Stalin during the discussions in Moscow. As a result of this failure it felt obliged to refer the question to the Security Council, where, in common with eight other members, it accepted a draft resolution. The representative of the U.S.S.R. challenged the competence of the United Nations to deal with the question at all, and voted against the resolution. It was the Soviet veto which stood in the way of further progress in the matter. As was stated at the time, the Government, with those of France and the U.S.A., expressed their willingness to be guided by the principles embodied in the resolution and pointed out that the Berlin question was still on the agenda of the Security Council. It therefore felt that the most hopeful method of reaching a satisfactory solution would be to leave it, as it stood, in the hands of the Security Council. As repeatedly made clear, the Government was fully prepared to agree to a four-Power meeting to discuss Berlin and other German questions so soon as the restrictions on communications, transport, and trade between Berlin and the western Zones had been removed.

18 Nov.—*Palestine*. The Council received the reply of Israel to its request for an armistice and the withdrawal of troops from the Negeb. It stated that it welcomed an armistice which would facilitate the transition from truce to peace, and noted with satisfaction the call to the two parties to seek agreement by negotiation. It asked to be notified the

time and place for its representatives to meet those of the Arab States. It also noted that the order for the withdrawal of troops from the Negeb had been qualified by the provision that those troops occupying positions there before 14 October should remain, and pointed out that since 15 May regular mobile forces had been maintained in the Negeb in addition to the garrisons of settlements. The withdrawal of such forces would invite predatory action by irregulars. Those extra forces which had been employed in the recent Negeb campaign had already been withdrawn, and only the normal garrisons and patrols remained.

U.S.A. 6 Nov.—*Palestine*. The State Department released news that a protest had been sent to Prague on 25 July regarding reports that substantial shipments of arms had been sent to the Israeli forces from Czechoslovakia during the truce. The Czech reply, received a month later, was 'entirely unsatisfactory and evasive'. (It was understood that a deserter from the Israeli air force had supplied full details of the air route from a Czech airfield to Palestine.)

10 Nov.—*European Economic Co-operation*. Mr Hoffman, in a speech in New York, emphasized the necessity of the U.S.A. encouraging the development of inter-European trade. 'There is no possibility of the European nations becoming self-sustaining by 1952 unless this is done. I remind you of this because there will be times in the short view when the building of inter-European trade will apparently be accomplished at the expense of American importers.'

***Ruhr*.** Anglo-American announcement (see *Germany*).

11 Nov.—*Ruhr*. Six-Power Talks (see *Conference on the Ruhr*).

Defence Secretary in Paris (see *France*).

12 Nov.—Mr Marshall's statement (see *France*).

13 Nov.—*Civil Defence*. The Secretary of Defence issued a report which was the result of seven months' work by the Office of Civil Defence Planning. It recommended the creation of a permanent office, with a staff of say, 1000, and a programme aiming at having a body in case of emergency of 15 million trained people.

16 Nov.—*China*. The E.C.A. authorized the supply of crude oil to China to a value of \$14 million.

***Dock Strike*.** The railway embargo on goods for export imposed owing to the strike of dockers caused 200 ships to be held up in ports from Portland, Maine, to Hampton Roads, Virginia. Over 1,000 railway men and thousands of seamen and lorry drivers were laid off in the New York area and other east coast ports.

President Truman received the press at Key West and told them he had no plans for meeting Mr Stalin or sending an emissary, but he would be delighted to welcome him in Washington. Policy on Berlin remained unchanged.

18 Nov.—*Aims in Europe*. Mr John Foster Dulles, speaking in Paris in the presence of Mr Marshall, said that by a gigantic aid programme and the renewal of its military strength, his country sought to maintain the balance of power so that western Europe, left almost a vacuum of power by the war, might be filled by native rather than alien forces.

Blood relationship and common culture gave Americans the right to express deep interest in Europe. The ignoble assertion that they were meddling was constantly made and that this interest merely reflected a desire to use western Europe as a military base for world mastery, but probably very few people believed this. It was also absurd to pretend that America was interested in Europe as a dumping ground for surplus goods.

They wanted Europe to have so much political strength that neither the U.S.A. nor any other Power would be able to use it for purposes alien to the development of Europe itself, and so much economic strength that it would be prosperous in its own right, and so much moral and intellectual dynamism that it would continue to arouse men everywhere to strike off any shackles that curtailed self-development. They wanted a Europe capable of inventing a new industrial revolution that would continue to multiply the productivity of human labour. The disunity of Europe was, however, a weakness which ambitious despots would constantly seek to explore.

U.S.S.R. 6 Nov.—1917 *Revolution*. Speaking in Moscow on the thirty-first anniversary of the Revolution, Mr Molotov called for the early conclusion of peace treaties with Germany and Japan, and for international control over the Ruhr. Referring to 'all this hullabaloo around the Western unions, Atlantic unions, and Mediterranean *blocs*', he said these organizations were preparing new aggressions and the unleashing of new wars.

12 Nov.—The Moscow radio announced that Marshal Vassilevsky had been relieved of his duties as Chief of the General Staff 'in view of the overburdening with work of the C.G.S.', but he would remain First Deputy Minister of the armed forces. Army General Shtemenko was appointed to succeed him.

17 Nov.—*Germany*. British statement re armed police (see *Great Britain*).

YUGOSLAVIA. 5 Nov.—*Cominform Dispute*. Note (see *Hungary*).

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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| Nov. | 23 | I.C.A.O. South East Asia Regional Meeting, New Delhi. |
| " | 29 | U.N. Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, Glenbrook, Australia. |
| Dec. | 1 | West Indian Conference, Guadeloupe. |
| " | 3 | General Election in Barbados. |
| 1949 | | |
| Jan. | — | European Movement: International Council, Brussels. |
| " | — | World Federation of Trade Unions, Brussels. |
| " | 2 | Royal Society of New Zealand: Pacific Science Congress, Auckland and Christchurch. |
| " | 7 | U.N. Economic and Social Council, Lake Success. |
| Mar. | 2 | Coronation of King Phumiphon Aduldet of Siam. |
| " | 21 | U.N. Economic Commission for Europe, Geneva. |
| " | 28 | Inter-American Economic Conference, Buenos Aires. |
| April | — | General Election in Burma. |
| " | 4 | Tariff negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, Geneva. |
| May | — | Conference on the conservation and utilization of the world's resources, Lake Success. |
| " | — | Conference on the conservation and utilization of the world's resources, Lake Success. |
| " | 10 | South Pacific Commission, Noumea, New Caledonia. |
| June | 8 | I.L.O. Conference, Geneva. |
| " | 20 | U.N. World Health Assembly, Rome. |